HOUSE BILL No. 1022

DIGEST OF INTRODUCED BILL

Citations Affected: IC 22-9-1; IC 22-9-2.

Synopsis: Civil rights remedies and age discrimination. Transfers jurisdiction over age discrimination proceedings from the commissioner of labor to the Indiana civil rights commission. Adds references to age discrimination to various statutes dealing with discriminatory activity. Allows the Indiana civil rights commission to impose a civil penalty, punitive damages, reasonable attorney's fees, and costs against a person who has been found to have engaged in an unlawful discriminatory practice. Allows a complainant or a respondent to elect to commence a civil action concerning a discriminatory practice in a state court without the consent of the other party. Limits the time in which a civil action may be brought. Allows the Indiana civil rights commission to bring a civil action concerning a discriminatory practice in a state court. Allows the Indiana civil rights commission to intervene as a party in a civil action concerning a discriminatory practice. Makes other changes.

Effective: July 1, 2001.

Smith V, Summers

January 8, 2001, read first time and referred to Committee on Human Affairs.



First Regular Session 112th General Assembly (2001)

PRINTING CODE. Amendments: Whenever an existing statute (or a section of the Indiana Constitution) is being amended, the text of the existing provision will appear in this style type, additions will appear in this style type, and deletions will appear in this style type.

Additions: Whenever a new statutory provision is being enacted (or a new constitutional provision adopted), the text of the new provision will appear in **this style type**. Also, the word **NEW** will appear in that style type in the introductory clause of each SECTION that adds a new provision to the Indiana Code or the Indiana Constitution.

Conflict reconciliation: Text in a statute in *this style type* or *this style type* reconciles conflicts between statutes enacted by the 2000 General Assembly.

HOUSE BILL No. 1022

A BILL FOR AN ACT to amend the Indiana Code concerning civil rights.

Be it enacted by the General Assembly of the State of Indiana:

SECTION 1. IC 22-9-1-2 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2001]: Sec. 2. (a) It is the public policy of the state to provide all of its citizens equal opportunity for education, employment, access to public conveniences and accommodations, and acquisition through purchase or rental of real property, including but not limited to housing, and to eliminate segregation or separation based solely on race, religion, color, sex, **age**, disability, national origin or ancestry, since such segregation is an impediment to equal opportunity. Equal education and employment opportunities and equal access to and use of public accommodations and equal opportunity for acquisition of real property are hereby declared to be civil rights.

(b) The practice of denying these rights to properly qualified persons by reason of the race, religion, color, sex, **age**, disability, national origin, or ancestry of such person is contrary to the principles of freedom and equality of opportunity and is a burden to the objectives of the public policy of this state and shall be considered as discriminatory practices. The promotion of equal opportunity without

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- (c) It is also the public policy of this state to protect employers, labor organizations, employment agencies, property owners, real estate brokers, builders, and lending institutions from unfounded charges of discrimination.
- (d) It is hereby declared to be contrary to the public policy of the state and an unlawful practice for any person, for profit, to induce or attempt to induce any person to sell or rent any dwelling by representations regarding the entry or prospective entry into the neighborhood of a person or persons of a particular race, religion, color, sex, age, disability, national origin, or ancestry.
- (e) The general assembly recognizes that on February 16, 1972, there are institutions of learning in Indiana presently and traditionally following the practice of limiting admission of students to males or to females. It is further recognized that it would be unreasonable to impose upon these institutions the expense of remodeling facilities to accommodate students of both sexes, and that educational facilities of similar quality and type are available in coeducational institutions for those students desiring such facilities. It is further recognized that this chapter is susceptible of interpretation to prevent these institutions from continuing their traditional policies, a result not intended by the general assembly. Therefore, the amendment effected by Acts 1972, P.L.176, is desirable to permit the continuation of the policies described.
- (f) This chapter shall be construed broadly to effectuate its purpose. SECTION 2. IC 22-9-1-3 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2001]: Sec. 3. As used in this chapter:
- (a) "Person" means one (1) or more individuals, partnerships, associations, organizations, limited liability companies, corporations, labor organizations, cooperatives, legal representatives, trustees, trustees in bankruptcy, receivers, and other organized groups of persons.
- (b) "Commission" means the civil rights commission created under section 4 of this chapter.
 - (c) "Director" means the director of the civil rights commission.
- (d) "Deputy director" means the deputy director of the civil rights commission.
- (e) "Commission attorney" means the deputy attorney general, such assistants of the attorney general as may be assigned to the commission, or such other attorney as may be engaged by the commission.



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1	(f) "Consent agreement" means a formal agreement entered into in
2	lieu of adjudication.
3	(g) "Affirmative action" means those acts that the commission
4	determines necessary to assure compliance with the Indiana civil rights
5	law.
6	(h) "Employer" means the state or any political or civil subdivision
7	thereof and any person employing six (6) or more persons within the
8	state, except that the term "employer" does not include:
9	(1) any nonprofit corporation or association organized exclusively
10	for fraternal or religious purposes;
11	(2) any school, educational, or charitable religious institution
12	owned or conducted by or affiliated with a church or religious
13	institution; or
14	(3) any exclusively social club, corporation, or association that is
15	not organized for profit.
16	(i) "Employee" means any person employed by another for wages or
17	salary. However, the term does not include any individual employed:
18	(1) by his the individual's parents, spouse, or child; or
19	(2) in the domestic service of any person.
20	(j) "Labor organization" means any organization that exists for the
21	purpose in whole or in part of collective bargaining or of dealing with
22	employers concerning grievances, terms, or conditions of employment
23	or for other mutual aid or protection in relation to employment.
24	(k) "Employment agency" means any person undertaking with or
25	without compensation to procure, recruit, refer, or place employees.
26	(l) "Discriminatory practice" means:
27	(1) the exclusion of a person from equal opportunities because of
28	race, religion, color, sex, disability, national origin, or ancestry,
29	or, in relation to employment only, age;
30	(2) a system that excludes persons from equal opportunities
31	because of race, religion, color, sex, disability, national origin, or
32	ancestry, or, in relation to employment only, age;
33	(3) the promotion of racial segregation or separation in any
34	manner, including but not limited to the inducing of or the
35	attempting to induce for profit any person to sell or rent any
36	dwelling by representations regarding the entry or prospective
37	entry in the neighborhood of a person or persons of a particular
38	race, religion, color, sex, disability, national origin, or ancestry;
39	or
40	(4) a violation of IC 22-9-5 that occurs after July 25, 1992, and is
41	committed by a covered entity (as defined in IC 22-9-5-4).
42	Every discriminatory practice relating to the acquisition or sale of real



1	estate, education, public accommodations, employment, or the			
2	extending of credit (as defined in IC 24-4.5-1-301) shall be considered			
3	unlawful unless it is specifically exempted by this chapter.			
4	(m) "Public accommodation" means any establishment that caters			
5	or offers its services or facilities or goods to the general public.			
6	(n) "Complainant" means:			
7	(1) any individual charging on his the individual's own behalf to			
8	have been personally aggrieved by a discriminatory practice; or			
9	(2) the director or deputy director of the commission charging that			
10	a discriminatory practice was committed against a person other			
11	than himself or a class of people, in order to vindicate the public			
12	policy of the state (as defined in section 2 of this chapter).			
13	(o) "Complaint" means any written grievance that is:			
14	(1) sufficiently complete and filed by a complainant with the			
15	commission; or			
16	(2) filed by a complainant as a civil action in the circuit or			
17	superior court having jurisdiction in the county in which the			
18	alleged discriminatory practice occurred.			
19	The original of any complaint filed under subdivision (1) shall be			
20	signed and verified by the complainant.			
21	(p) "Sufficiently complete" refers to a complaint that includes:			
22	(1) the full name and address of the complainant;			
23	(2) the name and address of the respondent against whom the			
24	complaint is made;			
25	(3) the alleged discriminatory practice and a statement of			
26	particulars thereof;			
27	(4) the date or dates and places of the alleged discriminatory			
28	practice and if the alleged discriminatory practice is of a			
29	continuing nature the dates between which continuing acts of			
30	discrimination are alleged to have occurred; and			
31	(5) a statement as to any other action, civil or criminal, instituted			
32	in any other form based upon the same grievance alleged in the			
33	complaint, together with a statement as to the status or disposition			
34	of the other action.			
35	No complaint shall be valid unless filed within one hundred eighty			
36	(180) days from the date of the occurrence of the alleged			
37	discriminatory practice.			
38	(q) "Sex" as it applies to segregation or separation in this chapter			
39	applies to all types of employment, education, public accommodations,			
40	and housing. However:			
41	(1) it shall not be a discriminatory practice to maintain separate			



rest rooms;

(2) it shall not be an unlawful employment practice for an
employer to hire and employ employees, for an employment
agency to classify or refer for employment any individual, for a
labor organization to classify its membership or to classify or refer
for employment any individual, or for an employer, labor
organization, or joint labor management committee controlling
apprenticeship or other training or retraining programs to admit
or employ any other individual in any program on the basis of sex
in those certain instances where sex is a bona fide occupational
qualification reasonably necessary to the normal operation of that
particular business or enterprise; and

- (3) it shall not be a discriminatory practice for a private or religious educational institution to continue to maintain and enforce a policy of admitting students of one (1) sex only.
- (r) "Disabled" or "disability" means the physical or mental condition of a person that constitutes a substantial disability. In reference to employment, under this chapter, "disabled or disability" also means the physical or mental condition of a person that constitutes a substantial disability unrelated to the person's ability to engage in a particular occupation.

(s) "Age" refers to the age of a person who is at least forty (40) years of age.

SECTION 3. IC 22-9-1-6 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2001]: Sec. 6. (a) The commission shall establish and maintain a permanent office in the city of Indianapolis.

(b) The commission may appoint such attorneys and other employees and agents as it considers necessary, fix their compensation within the limitation provided by law, and prescribe their duties. All duties performed by an employee or agent employed by the commission shall be performed in the public interest. All these employees, with the exception of the executive director and attorneys, shall be appointed by the commission from eligible lists to be promulgated by the department of personnel as the result of a competitive examination held under IC 4-15-2 and rules of the department and on the basis of training, practical experience, education, and character. However, special consideration and due weight shall be given to the practical experience and training that a person may have for the particular position involved regardless of his the person's academic training. Promotions, suspensions, and removal of persons appointed from such lists shall be in accordance with IC 4-15-2. The reasonable and necessary traveling expenses of each employee of the commission while actually engaged in the performance







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1	its investigation.
2	(i) The commission may hold hearings, subpoena witnesses, compel
3	their attendance, administer oaths, take the testimony of any person
4	under oath, and require the production for examination of any books
5	and papers relating to any matter under investigation or in question
6	before the commission. The commission may make rules as to the
7	issuance of subpoenas by individual commissioners. Contumacy or
8	refusal to obey a subpoena issued under this section shall constitute a
9	contempt. All hearings shall be held within Indiana at a location
10	determined by the commission. A citation of contempt may be issued
11	upon application by the commission to the circuit or superior court in
12	the county in which the hearing is held or in which the witness resides
13	or transacts business.
14	(j) The commission may appoint administrative law judges other
15	than commissioners, when an appointment is deemed necessary by a
16	majority of the commission. The administrative law judges shall be
17	members in good standing before the bar of Indiana and shall be
18	appointed by the chairman of the commission. An administrative law
19	judge appointed under this subsection shall have the same powers and
20	duties as a commissioner sitting as an administrative law judge.
21	However, the administrative law judge may not issue subpoenas.
22	(k) The commission shall state its findings of fact after a hearing.
23	and, If the commission finds a person has engaged in an unlawful
24	discriminatory practice, shall eause to be served on this person an order
25	requiring the person to the commission may:
26	(1) award preventive relief, including but not limited to
27	issuing a restraining order, a cease and desist from the unlawful
28	discriminatory practice and requiring the person to take further
29	affirmative action as will effectuate the purposes of this chapter,
30	order, or a temporary or permanent injunction to be served
31	on the person; and
32	(2) require the person to take the further affirmative action or
33	actions that the commission determines are needed to
34	effectuate the purpose of this chapter, including but not limited
35	to the power:
36	(A) to award actual damages to restore the complainant's
37	losses incurred as a result of discriminatory treatment and to
38	award other appropriate relief, including:
39	(i) punitive damages;
40	(ii) reasonable attorney's fees; and
41	(iii) court costs;





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as the commission may deem necessary to assure justice;

1	however, this specific provision when applied to orders
2	pertaining to employment shall include only wages, salary, or
3	commissions;
4	(B) to impose a civil penalty under subsection (s);
5	(C) to require the posting of notice setting forth the public
6	policy of Indiana concerning civil rights and respondent's
7	compliance with the policy in places of public
8	accommodations;
9	(C) (D) to require proof of compliance to be filed by the
10	respondent at periodic intervals; and
11	(D) (E) to require a person who has been found to be in
12	violation of this chapter and who is licensed by a state agency
13	authorized to grant a license to show cause to the licensing
14	agency why his the license should not be revoked or
15	suspended.
16	(l) Judicial review of a cease and desist order or other affirmative
17	action as referred to in this chapter may be obtained under IC 22-9-8.
18	If no proceeding to obtain judicial review is instituted within thirty (30)
19	days from receipt of notice by a person that an order has been made by
20	the commission, the commission, if it determines that the person upon
21	whom the cease and desist order has been served is not complying or
22	is making no effort to comply, may obtain a decree of a court for the
23	enforcement of the order in circuit or superior court upon showing that
24	the person is subject to the commission's jurisdiction and resides or
25	transacts business within the county in which the petition for
26	enforcement is brought.
27	(m) If, upon all the evidence, the commission shall find that a
28	person has not engaged in any unlawful practice or violation of this
29	chapter, the commission shall state its findings of facts and shall issue
30	and cause to be served on the complainant an order dismissing the
31	complaint as to the person.
32	(n) The commission may furnish technical assistance requested by
33	persons subject to this chapter to further compliance with this chapter
34	or with an order issued thereunder.
35	(o) The commission shall promote the creation of local civil rights
36	agencies to cooperate with individuals, neighborhood associations, and
37	state, local, and other agencies, both public and private, including
38	agencies of the federal government and of other states.
39	(p) The commission may reduce the terms of conciliation agreed to
40	by the parties to writing (to be called a consent agreement) that the
41	parties and a majority of the commissioners shall sign. When signed,
42	the consent agreement shall have the same effect as a cease and desist



order issued under subsection (k). If the commission determines that a
party to the consent agreement is not complying with it, the
commission may obtain enforcement of the consent agreement in a
circuit or superior court upon showing that the party is not complying
with the consent agreement and the party is subject to the commission's
jurisdiction and resides or transacts business within the county in
which the petition for enforcement is brought.
(q) In lieu of investigating a complaint and holding a hearing under
this section, the commission may issue an order based on findings and
determinations by the federal Department of Housing and Urbar
Development or the federal Equal Employment Opportunity
Commission concerning a complaint that has been filed with one (1) or

(r) Upon notice that a complaint is the subject of an action in a federal court, the commission shall immediately cease investigation of the complaint and may not conduct hearings or issue findings of fact or orders concerning that complaint.

these federal agencies and with the commission. The commission shall

adopt by rule standards under which the commission may issue such an

- (s) To vindicate the public interest, the commission may assess against the respondent a civil penalty that does not exceed the following:
 - (1) Twenty-five thousand dollars (\$25,000), in the case of a respondent that has at least six (6) and less than fourteen (14) employees in each of at least twenty (20) calendar weeks in the twenty-four (24) month period immediately preceding the date that the violation occurred.
 - (2) Fifty thousand dollars (\$50,000), in the case of a respondent that has at least fourteen (14) employees and less than one hundred one (101) employees in each of at least twenty (20) calendar weeks in the twenty-four (24) month period immediately preceding the date that the violation occurred.
 - (3) One hundred thousand dollars (\$100,000), in the case of a respondent that has at least one hundred one (101) employees and less than two hundred one (201) employees in each of at least twenty (20) calendar weeks in the twenty-four (24) month period immediately preceding the date that the violation occurred.
 - (4) Two hundred thousand dollars (\$200,000), in the case of a respondent that has at least two hundred one (201) employees and less than five hundred one (501) employees in each of at





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1	least twenty (20) calendar weeks in the twenty-four (24)
2	month period immediately preceding the date that the
3	violation occurred.
4	(5) Three hundred thousand dollars (\$300,000), in the case of
5	a respondent that has at least five hundred one (501)
6	employees in each of at least twenty (20) calendar weeks in the
7	twenty-four (24) month period immediately preceding the
8	date that the violation occurred.
9	(6) Zero dollars (\$0), if subdivisions (1) through (5) do not
10	apply.
11	SECTION 4. IC 22-9-1-10 IS AMENDED TO READ AS
12	FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2001]: Sec. 10. Every contract to
13	which the state or any of its political or civil subdivisions is a party,
14	including franchises granted to public utilities, shall contain a provision

SECTION 4. IC 22-9-1-10 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2001]: Sec. 10. Every contract to which the state or any of its political or civil subdivisions is a party, including franchises granted to public utilities, shall contain a provision requiring the contractor and his the contractor's subcontractors not to discriminate against any employee or applicant for employment to be employed in the performance of such contract, with respect to his the individual's hire, tenure, terms, conditions or privileges of employment or any matter directly or indirectly related to employment, because of his the individual's race, religion, color, sex, age, disability, national origin, or ancestry. Breach of this covenant may be regarded as a material breach of the contract.

SECTION 5. IC 22-9-1-11 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2001]: Sec. 11. In addition to its power to investigate the discriminatory practices referred to in this chapter, the commission may receive written complaints of violation of this chapter or other discriminatory practices based upon race, religion, color, sex, **age, disability,** national origin, or ancestry and to investigate such complaints as it deems meritorious, or to conduct such investigation in the absence of complaints whenever it deems it in the public interest. It may transmit to the general assembly its recommendations for legislation designed to aid in the removing of such discrimination.

SECTION 6. IC 22-9-1-16 IS AMENDED TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2001]: Sec. 16. (a) This section shall not be construed to limit the application of IC 22-9.5-4.

(b) Except as provided in this section, a respondent or a complainant may elect to have the claims that are the basis for a finding of probable cause decided in a civil action as provided by section 17 of this chapter. However, both the respondent and the complainant must agree in writing to have the claims decided in a court of law. The agreement must be on a form provided by the commission.



- 11 (b) The election may not be made (c) The complainant may not file a civil action under this section with respect to an alleged discriminatory practice that forms a basis of probable cause issued by the commission if the commission has begun a hearing on the record under this chapter with regard to a finding of probable cause. respect to the finding of probable cause. (d) If the commission has obtained a conciliation agreement with the consent of a complainant, the complainant may not file an action under this section with respect to the alleged discriminatory practice that forms the basis of the complaint, except to enforce the terms of the agreement. A civil action to enforce a conciliation agreement must be brought within one (1) year after the occurrence of the breach of the conciliation agreement. (e) This subsection does not apply to a civil action brought to enforce a conciliation agreement entered under this article. Except as provided in subsection (f), an action under this section must be brought within one (1) year after the occurrence of the termination of the alleged discriminatory practice. The one (1) year period in which to file a civil action does not include any time during which an administrative proceeding under this article is pending with respect to a complaint or finding of probable cause under this article based on a discriminatory practice. (f) If:

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- (1) a charge filed with the commission is dismissed by the commission; or
- (2) the commission has not filed a civil action under subsection (g) and the complainant and respondent have not entered into a conciliation agreement under this article;

the commission shall give written notice to the parties that a civil action may be brought against the respondent by the complainant not later than ninety (90) days after the notification.

(g) The commission may bring a civil action against a respondent in a circuit or superior court on behalf of the complainant if the commission determines that the case is of general public importance.

SECTION 7. IC 22-9-1-19 IS ADDED TO THE INDIANA CODE AS A NEW SECTION TO READ AS FOLLOWS [EFFECTIVE JULY 1, 2001]: Sec. 19. The director or deputy director, in the director's or deputy director's official capacity, may intervene as a matter of right as a complainant in a civil action concerning a discriminatory practice. Intervention under this section shall be considered timely if the complaint initiating the civil action:



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